

Iowa Fishing Report

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The Iowa Department of Natural Resources issues a weekly fishing report on Thursdays in an effort to provide the latest information heading into the weekend. The weekly fishing report is compiled from information gathered from local bait shops, angler creel surveys, and county and state parks staff. For current information, contact the district fisheries office at the phone number listed at the end of each district report.

SOUTHWEST

Binder Lake

Water quality is good and the rooted vegetation is growing in the bays.

Lake Icaria

The lake level is near normal and the water quality near the dam is good. Water temps are above 70.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Some fair sized bluegills are biting from the tops of the fish mounds.
Bullhead	Excellent	A lot of fish 6 to 10 inches can be caught from shore just about anywhere in the lake on crawlers.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Several fish up to 20 inches have been caught near -shore, the fish mounds, and the woody structure.
Walleye	Fair	Some walleye are being caught from the mounds and big points. Crawlers and leeches are showing a some success.

West Lake Corning

Water quality is good and the panfish are biting.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	A few fish up to 7.5 inches can be caught from shore near the west roadway.
Crappie	Fair	A few nice sized fish have been caught from shore on white jigs.

West Lake (Osceola)

Water quality is good and the lake level is near normal.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Largemouth Bass	Good	Several fish can be caught from near-shore or from the near the structure.

Little River Watershed Lake

Water clarity is less than 12 inches.

Slip Bluff Lake

Water quality is fair.

Badger Creek Lake

Water clarity is around 2 to 3 feet near the dam. Algae is starting to develop.

Fogle Lake S.W.A.

Water quality is good.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Several fish can be caught from spawning beds at various places around the shoreline. Most fish are from 6 to 7.5 inches.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Several fish are near-shore and can be caught on spinners and crankbaits.

Lake of Three Fires

Water clarity is about 2.5 feet.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Several real nice fish have been caught using crawlers over the fish mounds or near the east corner of the dam. A small worm down about 2 1/2 feet works very well.
Bullhead	Good	A lot of real nice fish have been caught using crawlers from shore just about anywhere around the lake.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	A lot of mid-sized fish have been caught from the near-shore structure.

Wilson Park Lake

Water quality is fair.

Windmill Lake

Water levels are near normal.

Green Valley Lake

The lake level has been lowered for construction projects and water quality improvements to be completed.

Three Mile Lake

Most fish species present in the lake are biting. Water quality is good and water levels are normal. Water temps are above 70.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	The bluegill are biting on crawlers near shore or from the near shore structure.
Crappie	Slow	The crappie are nearing the end of the spawning. Several fish of all sizes have been caught from flooded trees in about 6 feet of water.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Several fish are biting from near-shore structure on spinners and crank baits.
Walleye	Fair	Some walleye are biting from steep shoreline areas and dirt mounds.

Twelve Mile Creek Lake

Water quality is good and the lake level is near normal.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	The bluegill fishing is good. A lot of nice fish from 6 to 8 inches have been picked up using crawlers from the near shore areas just about anywhere around the lake. The areas near the jetties and west shore have been very successful. The rock fields hold a lot of bigger fish.
Bullhead	Good	A lot of nice bullheads can be caught using crawlers.
Largemouth Bass	Good	A lot of mid-sized fish can be caught from the near-shore structure and rock covered areas.
Walleye	Fair	The walleye are biting better from the open points, steep drop-off areas, and near the dike at the upper end on leeches or crawlers. Some anglers are seeing success by trolling crankbaits over the rock fields.

The bluegills are biting fairly well at a lot of lakes near shore. Some walleye activity is happening on the mounds. Largemouth bass are biting at several lakes. Channel catfish are spawning in the big rocks. Several other species are biting well at most lakes. Water temps are usually in the mid 70's and water quality at most lakes is fair or good.

Greenfield Lake

Greenfield lake has a concrete boat ramp and is trolling motor only.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Bluegills up to 9 inches are being caught drifting small black jigs tipped with nightcrawler.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Greenfield Lake has a good population of 12 to 15 inch fish. Cast spinnerbaits or plastic baits along weed edges and in cedar tree piles.

Littlefield Lake

Lake is full and has concrete boat ramp.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Channel catfish in the 1-3 lb range are being caught in the corners of the dam using liver.

Lake Anita

Lake is full with good water clarity.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	A few bluegill are being caught casting nightcrawlers under a bobber along weed edges.
Crappie	Fair	Crappies have moved off shore but are being caught drifting small jigs in 6-8 feet of water in the main part of the lake. Anglers are also having success casting around the underwater reefs.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Fishing has slowed for largemouth bass since last week but fish are being caught in 6-8 feet of water along road bed.

Lake Manawa

Lake is full with a slight algae bloom.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Anglers are having success using cut bait and shrimp on the south and west side of the lake. Fish are averaging 1-3 lbs.
Walleye	Slow	A few walleyes are being caught on west side of lake drifting nightcrawlers.

Anderson Area Pond 1

Pond 1 is north of Montgomery County office building. There is no boat ramp.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Bluegills are being caught along dam casting small jigs or nightcrawlers under a bobber.
Crappie	Slow	A few crappies are being caught drifting minnows under a bobber casting from dam.

Hacklebarney East

Hacklebarney East has excellent water quality being able to see down 15 feet. Lake has one small gravel boat ramp.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Lake has a good channel catfish population with fish averaging 2-3 lbs. Cast bait past weed line using a slip bobber.

Cold Springs District Farm Ponds

Most farm ponds are full and support good populations of largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish. Remember to always ask permission before fishing private ponds.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Bluegill spawn is winding down. Try casting small jigs along weed edges and around structure.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Channel cats are being caught close to shore and around structure using cut bait.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Largemouth bass can be caught casting spinners or plastic baits around structure and close to shore.

Hot weather has pushed water temperatures above 80 degrees. The bluegill spawn is winding down and most fish have moved away from shore during the day. Contact Bryan Hayes or Mark Boucher at the Southwest District Office for more information on area lakes at 712-769-2587.

Don Williams Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Bluegills can still be caught shallow using crawlers under a bobber or by drifting in 8- 10 feet of water with a split shot and small piece of crawler.
Crappie	Fair	Drift fishing mid lake on the upper half with small tube jigs or minnows has produced is producing some fish.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Largemouth are hitting using plastics or spinner baits fished near wood structure. There are good fish up to 20 inches.

Beaver Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Jacob Krumm Nature Preserver Lake (west)

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Rock Creek Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Roberts Creek Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Big Creek Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Excellent	Bluegill bite is good using small pieces of crawler under a bobber or small tube jigs fished near sunken brush piles or drifting near the mouths of the bays.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Large catfish are being caught in deeper water using leeches.
Crappie	Fair	Crappies can be caught drifting mid lake out from the Williams Drive boat ramps using small jigs. Pink and white combinations work well.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Bass are hitting good on crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and plastic worms. The most success is on the north end.

Easter Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Hickory Grove Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Bluegills can still be caught shallow using crawlers under a bobber or drifting deeper water with just a split shot and small piece of crawler.
Crappie	Slow	Some crappies are being caught near wood or riprap in shallow water. Crappies are also being caught drifting in the middle of the lake using small jigs or minnows.

Hooper Area Pond

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Lake Ahquabi

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Good sized bluegills are being caught using crawlers fished near the bottom at the edge of the weed beds.
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfish are being caught on livers and stinkbaits.
Crappie	Fair	A few crappies are being caught at the fishing pier throwing 1/32 jigs with twister tails.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Bass are biting on small plastics fished on the edges of the vegetation.

Red Rock Reservoir

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Saylorville Reservoir

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfishing is good in the mornings and late evenings fishing in 1 to 5 foot of water with minnows, cutbait, or shrimp.
Walleye	Fair	Some decent walleye from 16 to 19 inches have been caught by throwing crankbaits near Sandpiper.
White Bass	Good	Good catches of white bass are coming from below the Big Creek spillway and off Sandpiper using jigs, spoons, or minnows under a bobber. Boat anglers trolling crankbaits are also doing well.
Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)	Fair	There are some wipers being caught on crankbaits off of Sandpiper.

Blue Heron Lake (Raccoon River Park)

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Des Moines River (Stratford to Saylorville Lake)

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Channel catfish are being caught using cutbait, livers, or nightcrawlers fished near any wood cover.
Freshwater Drum	Excellent	Catching drum is no problem right now using nightcrawlers fished on the bottom.

Des Moines River (Saylorville to Red Rock)

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Channel catfish biting on small live sunfish, cutbait, livers, or nightcrawlers. Fish near any logjam, eddy, or riprap.
White Bass	Good	White bass are being caught below the Saylorville spillway on jigs, spoons, or minnows.
Wiper (Hybrid Striped Bass)	Fair	A few wipers have been caught below the Saylorville spillway using large jigs tipped with minnows.

Contact Ben Dodd or Andy Otting at (515) 432-2823 for information on the above area lakes and rivers.

SOUTHEAST

Lake Wapello

The lake was completely drained during the summer of 2008. Repairs have been made and the gate is now shut and the lake is re-filling.

Red Haw Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Small jigs have been catching fish along with a chunk of nightcrawler under a bobber. The best areas have been along the shorelines and around submerged structure.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Nightcrawlers have been the best bait for catching channel catfish.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Use soft plastics along the shoreline and around submerged structure. Crankbaits and spinnerbaits are also a good choice to use around these same areas.

Lake Keomah

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Use small jigs tipped with a chunk of nightcrawler fished along the shoreline. Look for areas with structure.
Channel Catfish	Slow	Use nightcrawlers or dead minnows.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Use soft plastics or jigs fished along submerged structure. Try off the ends of the rock jetties and also where the jetties meet the shoreline.

Albia (lower)

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Use small jigs along the shorelines. Try using a chunk of nightcrawler under a bobber.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Try areas with some rip rap or areas with submerged structure. There are also areas marked with habitat buoys where cedars trees have been placed.

Lake Miami

The lake drawdown started May 15th. Anglers may still use the lake during this time and the boat docks and boat ramps are usable.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Use small jigs along the shorelines and around structure.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Use nightcrawlers or dead minnows.
Crappie	Good	Use small jigs or jig/minnow combinations along the shoreline or other structure.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Use soft plastics or spinnerbaits around structure.

Lake Sugema

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Use small jigs tipped with a nightcrawler. Try a variety of depths.
Crappie	Fair	Use small jigs tipped with a minnow or waxworm. Try different colors and locations until you find active fish.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Use soft plastics around weedlines and other structure. Try using spinnerbaits in the same areas. Topwaters are also a good choice for mornings and evenings.

Rathbun Reservoir

Lake Rathbun water temperature is in the 70's. The lake level is currently at 909.74 which is about six feet above normal pool.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Use nightcrawlers or cut bait to catch channel catfish in the coves and bays.
Crappie	Slow	Crappies are being caught around flooded vegetation along the shoreline. A lot of crappies are being caught but most of them are under 8 inches, with an occasional fish over 10 inches.
Walleye	Fair	Try drifting nightcrawlers or trolling crankbaits around underwater islands and ridges. Large numbers of smaller walleye are being caught with an occasional keeper. The South Fork flats have been producing some catches of keepers.
White Bass	Good	Use flashy blade baits or chrome colored baits to mimic shad. Try areas with some underwater structure or a change in depth. The area around Island View has been productive.

Rathbun District Farm Ponds

Crappies and bluegills have been hitting in area farm ponds. Largemouth bass are also being caught. Be sure to ask permission before fishing private farm ponds.

For any additional fishing information in southeast Iowa, please contact the Rathbun Fish Hatchery at 641-647-2406.

Hannen Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Iowa Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Kent Park Lake

Anglers are also catching fish in some of their ponds as well.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Bluegill fishing has been decent around shallow rock and brush.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Try around rock with crawlers or sunfish.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Crankbaits and soft plastics have been producing best.

Lake Macbride

Water temps are in the low to mid 80 degrees. Remember a 10 hp maximum is now in effect for Lake Macbride.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Try crawlers or sunfish around shallow rock, wood, weeds. Towards evening is usually best.

Pleasant Creek Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Diamond Lake

The water is quite dirty due to heavy rains. Remember, no minnows are allowed here.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Some bluegills have been caught here.
Channel Catfish	Fair	The catfish have been around shallow rocks and wood in attempts to spawn. Fish with crawlers or sunfish around these shallow structures.

Otter Creek Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Union Grove Lake

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Coralville Reservoir

We have received no information regarding fishing on this water body this week.

Most lakes have water temps cracking the 80 degree mark. Channel catfish have been spawning and can be found around shallower rock and wood. For more information, contact the Lake Macbride Fisheries Station at 319-624-3615.

Lake Geode

Heavy rains have made the lake high and muddy.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	Anglers are still catching a few bluegills down around t he dam.

Lake Belva Deer

The road crews are still making progress on the road project. This year they are preparing the road bed and the paving will occur next year after the road bed has had a winter to settle. The surface will remain gravel this year. A detour map is available at the Keokuk CCB website.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	Anglers are seeing the bluegills on the beds but they can't get them to bite. The storms rolling through aren't helping the fishing.

Pollmiller Park Lake

Extremely heavy rains have made the lake very turbid.

Lake Darling

The lake is drained. The lake has filled back up with the heavy rains. It will drain all back out.

Skunk River (Coppock to Mississippi River)

Most of the river is either in minor or moderate fllood stage.

Iowa River (Columbus Junction to Mississippi River)

The rains have brought the river to bank full up to minor flood stage around the Wapello area. Water temps range between 76 and 80 degrees.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Flathead Catfish	Slow	Anglers have seen a big drop in the number of flatheads being caught. The up and down water levels can't be helping any.

For more information on the above lakes call us at the Lake Darling Fisheries Office at (319) 694-2430.

Lake of the Hills

The hot, muggy weather and numerous storm fronts have slowed fishing at Lake-of-the-Hills. Fish early in the morning, late in the evening, or in shady areas.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Bluegills are starting to come off the beds. Use small jigs tipped with wax worms or pieces of nightcrawlers.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Find throughout the lake using nightcrawlers, stink bait, and chicken livers.
Crappie	Slow	No significant catches reported.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Use traditional bass baits. Experiment with water depth until you find fish.
Rainbow Trout	Slow	No reported catches.

**MISSISSIPPI
RIVER**

Mississippi River Pool 9

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Some fish are being caught in the backwaters around the new albin area. Use a nightcrawler under a bobber.
Flathead Catfish	Good	Flathead can be caught along the channel fishing small bullheads on the bottom
Freshwater Drum	Excellent	Drum are being caught in many areas using a nightcrawler on the bottom
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Fish rocky shorelines and backwater areas. Fish are being caught on tube jigs or on topwater baits in the backwater.
Walleye	Fair	Walleye fishing has been fair trolling the faces of wingdams.

Mississippi River Pool 10

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	A few fish are being caught in the sny magill and bussey lake areas. use a nightcrawler and bobber. You may also want to try fishing a small popper in some of the shallower areas.
Bullhead	Fair	a few bullhead a being caught below the lynxville dam
Channel Catfish	Excellent	Many catfish are being caught in some of the rocky shorelines above l&d number 10 by floating a bobber and nightcrawler along the shores.
Freshwater Drum	Good	use a nightcrawler on sand flats or side channels
Largemouth Bass	Good	Bass can be caught using tube jigs around some of the woody structures along the side channels. Also try fishing spinnerbaits along the wingdams and rocky shorelines.
Walleye	Fair	Fish the wingdams trolling a threeway jig tipped with nightcrawlers or tipped with leaches.
White Bass	Good	Fish are being caught on the wingdams using small inline spinners.

Mississippi River Pool 11

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfish can be caught along the channel using stinkbait rigs.
Flathead Catfish	Fair	A few flathead are still being caught below the dam using small bluegill. Also a few being caught below the spillway.
Freshwater Drum	Good	Use a nightcrawler on the bottom along sand flats or side channels.
Largemouth Bass	Slow	A few fish are being caught in the backwaters using tubejigs or spinnerbaits.
Smallmouth Bass	Fair	Fish are being caught on wingdams and rocky shorelines using tube jigs or small spinners.
Walleye	Fair	Some fish are being caught on the wingdams trolling threeway rigs. Fish are also being caught trolling crankbaits along the edge of the channel.

River gauges: Lansing- 7.92 Lynxville- 13.94 Guttenberg- 5.9 Water temperature at Guttenberg - 73 degrees. Water is fairly muddy after this weeks rain. The water levels in pools 9-11 steady to starting to fall. Call Guttenberg fisheries station for current conditions at (563) 252-1156.

Mississippi River Pool 16

River stage at Lock and Dam 15 is 7.94ft and falling. River levels are forecasted to fall throughout the weekend.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	Fishing for bluegills has been slow in Sunset Marina and the Andalusia Island complex.
Channel Catfish	Good	Channel catfish are being caught on nightcrawlers, leeches, and dipbaits around wingdams. Some channel catfish are also being caught floating leeches under a bobber along rocky shorelines. Some channel catfish are being picked up along the Davenport Riverfront. Fishing has also been good for catfish in Andalusia Slough and Velie Chute fishing brush piles.
Crappie	Slow	Fishing for crappies in Sunset marina and the Andalusia Island complex has been slow.
Sauger	Slow	Fishing has been difficult on the wingdams due to muddy water conditions.
Walleye	Slow	Walleye fishing on the wingdams has been difficult due to muddy water conditions.
White Bass	Slow	White bass fishing in Sylvan Slough has been slow.

Mississippi River Pool 17

River stage at Lock and Dam 16 is 7.44ft and falling. River levels are forecasted to fall throughout the weekend. Fishing has been difficult due to muddy water conditions.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	No Report	
Channel Catfish	Good	Channel catfish are being caught on crawlers, leeches, dipbaits, and chicken liver. Some channel catfish are being caught along the Muscatine Riverfront on nightcrawlers. Some channel catfish are starting to be caught fishing leeches under a bobber along riprap shorelines.
Crappie	No Report	
Walleye	Slow	Walleye fishing on the wingdams has been difficult due to muddy water conditions.
White Bass	Slow	White bass fishing has been hit or miss. Some fish are being caught up by the dam and on the wingdams on crankbaits and jigs/twister combinations.

Mississippi River Pool 18

River stage at Lock and Dam 17 is 10.76ft and falling. River levels are forecasted to fall throughout the weekend. Fishing has been difficult due to high and muddy water.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	No Report	
Channel Catfish	Good	Channel cats are being caught on nightcrawlers, leeches, dipbaits, and chicken livers. Some channel catfish are starting to be picked up floating leeches under a bobber along rocky shorelines.
Crappie	No Report	
Sauger	No Report	
Walleye	No Report	
White Bass	No Report	

Mississippi River Pool 19

River stage at Lock and Dam 18 is 7.97ft and falling. River levels are forecasted to fall throughout the weekend. Fishing has been difficult due to high and muddy water.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	
Channel Catfish	Good	Channel catfish are being caught on nightcrawlers, leeches, dipbaits, and chicken livers. Some channel catfish are starting to be picked up floating leeches and nightcrawlers under a bobber along the riprap shoreline at Ft. Madison.
Crappie	Slow	
Sauger	Slow	
Walleye	Slow	
White Bass	Slow	

Mississippi River Pools 16-20: Water levels are beginning to fall throughout pools 16-20 of the Mississippi River. Main channel water temperature is around 80 degrees and water clarity is poor. For more information on fishing Pools 16-20 of the Mississippi River contact the Fairport Fish Hatchery at 563-263-5062.

Mississippi River Pool 12

River stage at Dubuque is 8.25 feet and is forecast to remain stable. Water clarity is fair. Water temperatures are in the low 80's.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Leeches floated under a bobber along rocks are producing. Stink baits are working too. Fish are also being caught in side channels and sloughs around snags in shallow water.
Freshwater Drum	Good	Fish crawlers on the bottom in areas with moderate current.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Wacky worms and shallow crankbaits in the Ice Harbor. Shallow crankbaits along the floodwall up by the dam. Not great size, but many keepers.
Walleye	Fair	Fish are being caught on the wind dams on three way rigs tipped with leeches or crankbaits. Reports of a lot of fish over 20 inches.

Mississippi River Pool 13

River stage at Bellevue is 6.22 feet and is forecast to rise to 6.6 feet by Saturday then begin to slowly fall. Water clarity is fair to poor. Water temperatures are in the low 80's.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Reports of a few bluegill coming out of Middle and South Sabula Lake.
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfish are starting to bite on stink bait or leeches under a bobber along rip rap.
Crappie	Slow	A few crappie are being caught in South and Sabula Lake. Fish are biting on minnows or jigs under a stick bobber.
Freshwater Drum	Good	Fish a night crawler on the bottom in areas of moderate current. There is good shoreline access at Pleasant Creek Recreation Area south of Bellevue.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Throw crankbaits along rocky shorlines or below the dam in Bellevue. Topwater frogs around vegetation has also been producing.
Smallmouth Bass	Fair	Reports of smallies being caught around rocks below the dam in Bellevue and around the mouth of Mill Creek.
Walleye	Fair	A few fish are being caught on wing dams. They are biting on a wide variety of baits. Three way rigs tipped with worms, crawlers, or leeches are producing, as well as crankbaits. Larger fish are coming on cranks. Good numbers of fish in the 20-27" protected slot reported.

Mississippi River Pool 14

River stage at Camanche is 10.26 feet and is forecast to slowly fall over the next week. Water clarity is poor. Water temps are in the low 80's.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Bluegills are starting to bite in the backwaters. Try a small jigs with crawlers or wax worms under a bobber.
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfishing is starting to pick along rocky shorelines. Leeches under a bobber have been producing. Stink bait is also producing.
Freshwater Drum	Good	Fish a piece of crawler on the bottom in areas with moderate current.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	The bass bite has slowed recently, probably due to decreased water clarity. Fish crankbaits along rocky shorelines or fish spinnerbaits and soft plastics in the backwaters. Topwater frogs around vegetation is also producing.
Walleye	Fair	The bite has slowed considerably with the muddy water. Look for fish to be on the wing dams.

Mississippi River Pool 15

No reports recieved from Pool 15.

For information about fishing Pools 12 - 15 of the Mississippi River, call the Bellevue Fish Management and Research Station at 563-872-4976.

NORTHEAST

Silver Lake (Delaware)

Anglers are reporting good catches of bluegill and largemouth bass.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Anglers are reporting good catches of 7-8 inch bluegill out of this lake.
Largemouth Bass	Good	Try casting spinnerbaits or topwater lures for largemouth bass.

Casey Lake (aka Hickory Hills Lake)

Bluegill fishing is good in Casey Lake.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Fish from shoreline in 3-6 ft. of water using a piece of nightcrawler under a bobber for spawning bluegill on the beds.
Flathead Catfish	Fair	Use cutbaits, nightcrawlers or stinkbaits fished on bottom of the lake.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	

Lake Delhi

Anglers are catching bluegills and channel catfish in Lake Delhi.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Anglers are catching bluegills off of spawning beds fished near the shoreline in 3-5 foot of water.
Channel Catfish	Good	

George Wyth Lake

Anglers are still catching crappies off of the floating dock on George Wyth Lake.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Crappie	Fair	Anglers are catching a few crappies from the floating dock but some sorting is required.

Avenue of the Saints Pond

Bluegill fishing remains fair on Saints Lake.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Try fishing a piece of nightcrawler underneath a bobber fished from shore.

Plainfield

Some catches of bluegill are being reported from this lake.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Try using small piece of nightcrawler underneath a bobber in 3-5 feet of water off of shoreline.

Cedar River (Nashua to La Porte City)

The Cedar river is currently on a slow rise from recent rainfall events and anglers are reporting good catches of channel catfish.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Cutbaits and stinkbaits are working well for channel catfish on the Cedar.

Shell Rock River (Greene to Shell Rock)

Fair catches of channel catfish have been reported.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Try fishing cutbaits, nightcrawlers or stinkbaits fished on the bottom of the river.

Wapsi River (Tripoli to Troy Mills)

Water levels continue to slowly fall on the Wapsipinicon River. Conditions are fair and anglers are reporting catches of channel catfish and a few walleye.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Try drifting a nightcrawler or leach under a bobber through shallow water areas or riffles.
Walleye	Fair	Walleyes have been caught on the Wapsi using jigs tipped with a minnow or nightcrawler.

Maquoketa River (above Monticello)

Conditions remain excellent for angling on the Maquoketa River.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Try fishing nightcrawlers or stinkbaits near logjams or fallen trees.
Smallmouth Bass	Fair	Anglers are catching smallmouth bass on spinner baits or jigs tipped with a nightcrawler.
Walleye	Fair	Try casting small jigs tipped with half of a nightcrawler or casting crankbaits along current breaks or rocky shoreline areas.

Anglers are still catching bluegills on area N.E. Iowa lakes. Channel Catfish are beginning to pick up on the interior rivers as well. For further information contact the N.E. Ia. District Fisheries Office at 563-927-3276.

Volga Lake

Water levels have dropped back to normal water level and water clarity has gotten better.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfish activity has increased with the warming temperatures. Right now large numbers of catfish are congregating along the rip rap in 3 to 5 feet of water. Try floating a worm 3 feet under a bobber, and stay close to shore.
Crappie	Slow	
Largemouth Bass	Good	

Lake Hendricks

Lake Hendricks still has very good water clarity.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Try using small twistertails tipped with a small piece of worm.
Channel Catfish	No Report	Now is a good time to try fishing for catfish especially with warmer water temperatures.
Crappie	No Report	
Largemouth Bass	Fair	

Lake Meyer

An algae bloom is currently going on the lake.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Smaller bluegill are being caught near the jetty. Worms fished under a bobber continues to be your best bet.
Channel Catfish	Good	Nice size cats are being caught on fish guts.
Crappie	Slow	Crappies have moved to deeper water.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Try looking for bass along weed edges this week. Use top water plastics tipped with worms.

Upper Iowa River (above Decorah)

Water levels are up less than a foot and falling after recent rainfall and water is muddy but clearing. Angling has been slow.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Northern Pike	No Report	
Smallmouth Bass	Slow	
Walleye	Slow	

Upper Iowa River (below Decorah)

Water levels below Decorah are up less than a foot and the water is very muddy.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Cats have been caught in the back eddies of the river fished off the bottom using nightcrawlers.
Smallmouth Bass	No Report	
Sucker	Fair	Suckers are being caught in the back eddies of the river fished off the bottom using nightcrawlers.
Walleye	No Report	

Cedar River (above Nashua)

Water levels around Charles City are up a foot and dropping. The river is muddy. Fishing has slowed due to river conditions.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Slow	Anglers are having the best success using night crawlers.
Largemouth Bass	Slow	
Northern Pike	Slow	
Smallmouth Bass	Slow	
Walleye	Slow	

Decorah District Streams

Due to the spottyness of recent rainfall events, trout stream conditions vary but the majority are fishable. Trout streams with better watersheds will clear faster. Trout streams continue to be regularly stocked and trout are waiting to be caught. For trout stocking information, please call 563-927-5736 or to check the schedule on-line, go to www.iowadnr.gov/fish/news/stockrep/trout.html.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Brown Trout	Good	There are reports of good hatches of both terrestrial and aquatic insects, especially flying ants and crickets.

Recent heavy rains in NE Iowa have been very spotty. As of 6-24, 2009, the Upper Iowa, Turkey and Cedar River water levels have been dropping and water clarity is fair but fishable. If you have any questions, please call the Decorah Fish Hatchery at 563-382-8324.

NORTHWEST

Big Spirit Lake

Weed beds have expanded quickly and can be seen almost to the surface.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Use soft plastics or live bait around weed beds or at Buffalo Run.
Muskellunge	Fair	Fish are being caught while trolling with large crank baits or inline spinners.
Smallmouth Bass	Good	Use twister tails or a slip bobber and leech along rock bars that connect with weedlines.
Walleye	Good	Drift fish with lindy rigs, verticle jig with leeches, or slip bobber fish around weed beds. Fish are also being caught trolling with crank baits along weed lines.
Yellow Perch	Good	Drift fish while using bottom bouncers or anchor and verticle jig with small jigging spoons tipped with worms in 20-22 foot of water.

East Okoboji Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	Use stink bait or chubs around the bridges or off the docks.
Yellow Bass	Excellent	Drift fish along boat docks with jigging spoons tipped with worms or slip bobber fish from docks.

Silver Lake (Dickinson)

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Walleye	Fair	Troll with crank baits on the north shore and around the island.

West Okoboji Lake

Weed beds are growing well with warm weather and just about any species can be caught around them.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Excellent	Fish with small hair jigs or a split shot and hook with live bait around boat docks or in 15-18 foot water along weed beds.
Northern Pike	Good	Troll crankbaits or spoons along weedlines.
Smallmouth Bass	Good	Fish the rock bars at Fort Dodge and Gull Points with jerkbaits or a lead head and leech.
Walleye	Fair	Use slip bobber and leech around weed beds at sunset.
White Bass	Good	Fish along points with jigs at sunset.

Five Island Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Use stink bait or chubs at the railroad bridge.
Walleye	Fair	Troll with crank baits along drop offs.

Lost Island Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Walleye	Good	Trolling with crankbaits.

Willow Creek

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Fish along edge of weed beds with small jigs or a bobber and small hook with a piece of worm. Large Pumpkinseed sunfish are also being caught.

Swan Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Good	Use worms along the north shore.

Tuttle Lake

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Crappie	Fair	Fish the south shore along boat docks with small jigs.
Walleye	Good	Troll with planer boards using crank baits.

Silver Lake (Palo Alto)

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Good	Use worms on the east shore.

Big Sioux River

Blue catfish have also been caught using large cut bait in deep holes, current seams, and brush piles near its confluence with the Missouri River.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Excellent	Use cut bait, chubs, or stink bait in deep holes and brush piles.
Flathead Catfish	Good	Use large live bait along brush piles, cut banks, and rock shorelines.

Little Sioux River (state line to Linn Grove)

With recent rains water levels have risen.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	Use large minnow or stink bait in holes and above brush piles.

West Fork Des Moines (state line to Emmetsburg)

With recent rains water levels have risen.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Excellent	Use chubs or stink bait in holes and around brush piles.
Walleye	Slow	Use twister tails or crank baits along current breaks and holes. Fishing has slowed with rising water levels.

Kids Corner: If you are looking for a place to take a child fishing then take them to Scharnburg Park located 5 miles west of Spencer on B24. Use a small bobber and piece of night crawler on the fishing jetty located on the west shore. Expect to catch bluegill, green sunfish, bullheads, and bass along the rocks or willows located along the shore. For more fishing report information on the Spirit Lake area rivers and lakes call 712-336-1840.

Beeds Lake

Crappies and Bluegill fishing is fair.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	
Crappie	Fair	

Briggs Woods Lake

Crappie and bluegill fishing is good. Channel catfish are biting on liver.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	
Channel Catfish	Good	
Crappie	Good	

Eldred Sherwood Lake

Bluegill fishing has been good using a piece of nightcrawler fished under a bobber near the weed edge.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	
Channel Catfish	Good	biting on cutbait.

Lower Pine Lake

Bluegill fishing is fair using a piece of nightcrawler fished under a bobber near the shoreline brush piles.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Bluegill fishing is excellent using a piece of nightcrawler fished under a bobber near the shoreline brush piles.
Channel Catfish	Good	using liver

Upper Pine Lake

Bluegill fishing is fair. Largemouth bass fishing is fair using a lindy rig or Carolina rig with a worm or minnow. Channel catfish are biting on liver.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Excellent	Fish the shoreline with a small piece of worm.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	

Lake Smith

Bluegill fishing has been good, try a piece of nightcrawler fished under a bobber.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	
Channel Catfish	Good	biting on cutbait.

Lake Catherine

Bluegill fishing has been slow. Largemouth bass fishing is good using jigs and plastic baits.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	
Largemouth Bass	Good	

Clear Lake

Yellow bass fishing is slow, try drift fishing the reefs with live bait.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	A few catfish are being caught with nightcrawlers or cutbait fished on the bottom at the Ventura grade and McIntosh State Park shoreline.
Walleye	Fair	Walleyes (mostly sublegal) are being caught off the jetty using minnows.
Yellow Bass	Fair	Yellow bass fishing is slow, try drift fishing the reefs with live bait until you find the fish.

Lake Cornelia

Bullhead fishing is fair using a night crawler fished on the bottom.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Good	Bullhead fishing is fair using a night crawler fished on the bottom.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Channel catfish are biting cut bait and liver.
Walleye	Slow	A few Walleyes are being caught on trolled crankbaits.

Little Wall Lake

Small crappies, largemouth bass and Channel catfish fishing is good.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Good	
Crappie	Good	
Largemouth Bass	Good	

West Twin Lake

Bullhead fishing is good using a nightcrawler fished on the bottom.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Good	

Rice Lake

Bullhead fishing is good fishing with a crawler off the bottom.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Good	

Bluebill Lake

Bluegill fishing has been slow. Largemouth bass are biting on crankbaits and plastic baits.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Slow	Bluegill fishing has been fair fishing the weed edges.
Largemouth Bass	Fair	Largemouth bass are biting on crankbaits and plastic baits.

Shell Rock River (above Greene)

Channel Catfish and Smallmouth bass fishing is fair.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	using cut bait or liver.
Smallmouth Bass	Fair	using jigs and crankbaits.

Winnebago River

Channel Catfish and Smallmouth bass fishing is fair.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Fair	
Smallmouth Bass	Fair	

For more information on fishing in the area lakes and rivers, call us at the Clear Lake Fisheries Office at (641) 357-3517.

[Nelson Park Lake](#)

Some panfish and catfish are being taken. Fishing has slowed.

[Yellow Smoke Park Lake](#)

Anglers are catching some panfish. It has been fairly slow.

[Crawford Creek Impoundment](#)

Fishing has slowed somewhat.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Shore and boat anglers are catching a few good sized bluegill with small hooks and jigs. Anglers have been fishing in shallow water and setting the bobber at about 6 inches.
Crappie	Good	Anglers are catching some nice crappie using small hooks & jigs with small minnows. Fish in shallows with a bobber.

Badger Lake

North of Ft. Dodge. Fishing has slowed as mid summer weather conditions have arrived. They are still catching some panfish.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Fair	Anglers have been catching some hand-size bluegill close to shore.
Crappie	Fair	Some 9 - 10 in fish have been caught on small jigs and minnows.

Brushy Creek Lake

Water clarity is still good. Nice bluegill, crappie and a few walleye are being caught. Please clean your your fish at the floating fish cleaning platform at the west ramp.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bluegill	Good	Bluegill can be found under trees and in the weeds. Use a small worm on a plain hook in 4 to 10 feet.
Channel Catfish	Good	Catfish are hitting on stink bait and nightcrawlers along the shore line.
Crappie	Good	Crappie are in the trees; try a small jig or minnow rig and fish in 10 to 14 feet of water.
Walleye	Good	Walleye have been hitting on leeches.

Storm Lake (incl Little Storm Lake)

Fishing has been good. A little spotty after fronts move through. Remember that Storm Lake has a 17-22 inch slot length limit. All walleye in that range must be immediately released.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Channel Catfish	Excellent	As lake warms the catfishing has improved. They are biting on a variety of baits from shore and in the rocks.
Walleye	Good	Anglers are still catching fish while trolling slowly with Shad Raps. Good colors are: hot steele, clown, purple haze and perch. People have been having good luck drifting with live bait using 1/8 oz jig heads around Frank Starr, south of big island and the college island.
White Bass	Good	White bass are being caught at Frank Starr Park and off the rocks on the big island by throwing twisters and crank baits. Anglers have also started to catch whites off the north shore west of Chautauqua jetty.

North Twin Lake

Fishing has slowed; anglers are catching some nice bullheads.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Good	Fair numbers of big bullhead are being caught.
Channel Catfish	Fair	Anglers are catching a few catfish on liver.

Black Hawk Lake

Bullhead and catfish fishing have been very good. Water has warmed considerably the last week.

Fish Name	Status	Comments
Bullhead	Excellent	Anglers are doing well for 8 to 9 inch bullheads.
Channel Catfish	Good	Shore anglers are having good luck catching 1.5 to 2 lb. catfish (2 lb) on various baits including leeches, nightcrawlers and stink bait.

Fishing has been good; water temperatures have been relatively cool for this time of year. Water clarity has been good to excellent in most lakes. For more information about the these lakes and rivers call Lannie Miller (712-657-2638) at the Black Hawk District Office in Lake View.